

12-10-04

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP [3700]**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**In re Application**

**Inventors:** Zucherman, et al.

**Appl. No.:** 09/978,386

**Confirm. No.:** 4255

**Filed:** October 16, 2001

**Title:** CURVED DILATOR AND METHOD

**PATENT APPLICATION**

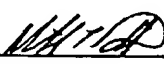
**Art Unit:** 3731

**Examiner:** V. Bui

**Customer No. 23910**

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 4, 2004.

  
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Michael L. Robbins, Reg. No. 54,774  
Signature Date: October 4, 2004

(Attorney Signature)

**RESPONSE D TO OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This RESPONSE D is in reply to the Office Action mailed July 6, 2004.

**Amendments**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

- 1 -